

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUALA 01653 290708Z

14-11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ORM-01 SR-02 AID-05

IO-10 OMB-01 /086 W

----- 033156

O 290642Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 9396

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 1653

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AMER PINT VS MY

SUBJ: EVACUATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: STATE 071355

1. BEFORE GOING TO THE GOM I CALLED THE VIETNAMESE CHARGE TO ASK
WHAT HE HAD DONE. HE SAID THAT HE HAD MADE A FORMAL REQUEST

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ON MARCH 29 ASKING FOR CASH OR FOOD, BUT HAD NOT BEEN INSTRUCTED

TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE IN EVACUATING REFUGEES. I TOLD HIM OF MY INSTRUCTIONS, THAT I FELT THE URGENCY OF THE SITUATION DID NOT PERMIT DELAY, AND THAT IN MY APPROACH I WOULD SAY THAT HE UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD BE SEEKING ASSISTANCE IN THE NEXT FEW HOURS. HE AGREED, AND SAID HE WOULD LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS HE HAD FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

2. I THEN WENT TO TAN SRI ZAITON, MOFA SECRETARY GENERAL, SAID I WAS COMING IN BEFORE MY VIETNAMESE COLLEAGUE BECAUSE OF THE EXTREME URGENCY OF THE PROBLEM, AND DELIVERED THE MESSAGE. I NOTED IN EXTENSION THAT SHIPS AND PLANES, EITHER MILITARY OR CIVILIAN, WERE NEEDED IMMEDIATELY, AND THAT TIME WAS CRITICALLY SHORT.

3. ZAITON SAID GOM WAS CONCERNED ABOUT DETERIORATING MILITARY SITUATION IN VIETNAM, AND ALARMED ABOUT THE REFUGEE PROBLEM. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, SEE MUCH HIS GOVERNMENT COULD DO IN THE SPECIFIC PROBLEM OF EVACUATING REFUGEES FROM DANANG. THE MALAYSIAN NAVY, HE SAID, HAS ONLY SMALL COASTAL PATROL CRAFT, AND THE AIR FORCE HAD ONLY THE SHORT RANGE TWIN ENGINE CARIBOU WHICH HE THOUGHT COULD ONLY CARRY ABOUT 20 PEOPLE. I URGED THAT ALL OF MALAYSIA'S ASSETS BE SURVEYED. HE SAID HE WOULD SEE THE PRIME MINISTER WHEN THE LATTER RETURNED TO KUALA LUMPUR LATER THIS AFTERNOON, AND WOULD LET ME KNOW. HE WAS, HOWEVER, "EIGHTY-PERCENT SURE" THAT THE ANSWER WOULD BE A REGRETFUL NEGATIVE.
UNDERHILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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